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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3483
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 7835
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 6794
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2337
RUEHKF/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 8196
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 4186
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 2747
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHWSMRC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 005037

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [KISL](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES ELECTIONS WITH FAZLUR REHMAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 4273

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, for reasons 1.4 (b)(d)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. Responding to an invitation, Ambassador met for lunch with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) leader Fazlur Rehman on November 20. [2](#)

[1](#)2. (C) Ambassador and Polcouns met November 20 over lunch with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) leader Fazlur Rehman. Also attending the lunch wer

JUI-F Will Participate in Elections

[1](#)3. (C) Ambassador opened the meeting by stating that the USG supported the lifting of the state of emergency and steps to ensure elections are

[1](#)4. (C) However, Rehman said that JUI-F was not calling for restoration of the judges. In his opinion, the judges Musharraf replaced for refusi

Relations with the PPP

[1](#)5. (C) Rehman said that JUI-F had greater differences with President Musharraf than Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Benazir Bhutto had wi

The USG Imprimatur

[1](#)6. (C) Haideri said that all important parties in Pakistan had to get the approval of the USG. JUI-F wanted to be a major party and therefore

Security Situation

[1](#)7. (C) Rehman said that JUI-F was trying to pacify the situation in the Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA), but "the people didn't alwa

[1](#)8. (C) Admitting that JUI-F did not have much support in the Punjab, Rehman said that JUI-F's strength remained in the FATA, NWFP and Balochis

Afghanistan/Jirga

[1](#)9. (C) Rehman asked if he could "send a message" across to the "opposition forces" in Afghanistan that the U.S. did not want to stay in Afghar

Taliban/al Qaeda

[1](#)10. (C) Finally, Rehman said he wanted to ask "a very difficult question" -- did the USG make a distinction between the Taliban and al Qaeda?

[1](#)11. (C) Comment: Fazlur enjoys being courted by both Musharraf and Bhutto and sees himself increasingly in the lucrative position of being kir
PATTERSON